

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 19, 2012
MINUTES

PRESENT: Missy Kueht-Becker, Tim Schindler, Kathy Duffek, Barb Holtz, Jim Pearson, Amy Baumann, Judy Hickey, Sarah Matson, Diane Ripple, Laura Sette (for Maura McMahon), Mary Wittwer (for Sara Carpenter), Ashley Frazier

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Alice Grosser, Lisa Roberts, Jesus Mireles, Mary Anderson, Pete Slesar

Missy Kueht-Becker called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Diane Ripple motioned to approve the minutes of the November 17 meeting, and the motion was seconded by Sarah Matson.

Missy welcomed everyone and wished all a happy new year. She distributed blue paper and asked for members to write down and submit a CAFSAC New Years resolution. Missy resolves to be a good, timely leader for CAFSAC. This is a very busy kickoff, with an earlier unmet needs presentation scheduled on March 15th. They will share the needs of the community and how agencies work together collaboratively and efficiently. Missy asked for volunteers to be on the needs committee to prepare the presentation. Last year Diane led the group. Judy Hickey, Diane Ripple, Pete Slesar, and Sarah Matson volunteered. Jesús suggested sending everyone the 2011 needs presentation for review and updates.

Introductions were made.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Missy read notes from Joe Vitale in his absence. He reported that at the December 8 meeting, Jill Posanski reported on the Waukesha County Humane Animal program. Also, the Criminal Justice Jag Smarter Sentencing Training 2009 Grant Award was accepted. Training is January 19-20 at the Country Springs Hotel. The HHS Board approved re-credentialing of Lynda Dahlke, Susanne Reed, Frank Pietzke, John Kim, Carolyn Morse, and James Rutherford, at the Mental Health Center. The meeting of January 12, the request for an increase in assessment fee for the Intoxicated Driver program lost on a 3-3 vote. There was an update from Public Health regarding the many cases of pertussis; there were 90 confirmed cases. Many people are choosing not to have their children immunized. Slesar asked Mary Anderson how much higher pertussis cases are this past year, and she guessed that there were thirty cases the previous year compared to the recent ninety. Jesús asked, since many of us work with parents that have infants and toddlers, how have we been dealing with this? Missy explained their staff won't go visit ill families in an attempt to prevent spreading to the next family. Amy Baumann said they don't see a lot of families opting out of immunizations. Missy said parents of children with special needs sometimes opt out and Sarah Matson agreed. Mary Anderson said some of the confirmed cases

are in people that have been immunized, but have not received the booster. Adults are recommended to get a booster.

The last note from Joe is that Antwayne Robertson replaced Don Maurer as Deputy Director, Jesús Mireles replaced Antwayne as the Intake and Shared Services Division Manager; Lisa Roberts replaced Jesús as the Children and Family Services Division Manager; Randy Setzer replaced Russ Kutz as the Fiscal Administrative Support Division Manager; Joan Sternweis replaced Mike DeMares as the Clinical Services Division Manager and Eric Dohman replaced Ann Christman as the Informational Services Administrator. There are also new supervisors; Danielle Birdeau for Joan Sternweis, Rebecca Hollister, from St. A's for Lisa Roberts. Mary Anderson announced Ariane Grudzina as her replacement. Ariane has a master's degree in nursing and a master's in public health. Tim Schindler announced that Darsell Johns moved over to the State Department of Children and Families (DCF) Children Welfare Coordinator (contract manager) position, monitoring performance standards, working closely with counties.

PARTNERSHIPS

Eve Altizer had a conflict and was unable to attend the meeting today. Missy shared handouts from Eve about a Wisconsin Family Ties monthly Parent Support Group on the third Wednesday of every month, at the Goodwill Center, 1400 Nike Dr., Waukesha.

CONTINUED AGENCY SHARING FROM NOVEMBER

Judy Hickey reported there are three programs out of the Lauer Center, which is near Goodwill in the Piedmont Business area. The IFDS team is an Intensive Family Services Team. They've existed since 1982 to meet the special needs of children who have been repeatedly placed in hospitals. They do assessments and help manage the family's crisis, stabilize families through conflict resolution and communication skills building. They work with a maximum of ten families. There are five MSW Social Workers on the team. An advocacy model is used. There are weekly individual meetings, they work closely with schools, and support families in court. There is ongoing communication with the social worker who remains part of the team. They believe children cannot be raised in institutions, and they give families the resources they need to keep the child in home. Involvement in the program is from six months to a year. Judy reported on the great summer recreation program, including a family picnic, planned in conjunction with the Lauer Center (Bill Bolden). They provide a lot of food at the kickoff. Outings have included the Fort Atkinson Water Park, Minooka park fishing and swimming, Fox Brook Park, and even the Harley Davidson Museum. Committees plan the outings. They work to develop the children's social skills. Judy has been supervising the team since 1994. She reported on some challenges they have, i.e., compensating staff appropriately. They receive referrals from open cases in Waukesha County; from the Mental Health Center or Adolescent and Family Services Division. They must be an open case and have tried other things. Jeri Shryock, Waukesha County Department of Health and Human Services Supervisors, is the liaison for these cases. She explained the process for case selection. Since there are only ten families in a county this size, they have to be very selective. The success rate has varied. Recently they've had some families that were set for a court date in the immediate future to go to an institution. In order to be successful you have to work with the team at least three months. The cost is

phenomenal for even one day in a Mental Health facility. The whole family is their client and all benefit in some way. Peter Slesar added that the IFDS team is the most intensive they have, for children literally at the door of placement. Judy said Waukesha County is a great county to work with. The reason it works is excellent communication with social workers.

James Pearson, shared the January Parent to Parent newsletter. He pointed out the Your Choice program schedule. Your Choice is a group of individuals in recovery and other young people who choose not to use alcohol. They do presentations in schools, and integrate a parent piece as well, so parents can learn the signs of drugs and alcohol use. Jim reported that they receive phone calls almost daily from parents asking for help with their struggling young person, after hearing this program's presentations. Jesús talked about the importance of educating parents about drugs and alcohol. Jim continued that the greatest current issue with parents is marijuana use. He referred to speaker Chuck Wood. Jim explained that because medical marijuana use is increasing, there is conflicting information out there that it's not as bad as alcohol. However, it is still dangerous; it can become addictive and cause serious problems in school and at home. Another current large concern is prescription drug use. Cocaine is also back on the radar. With very dangerous, risky stimulant drugs appearing recently, such as bath salts, it makes cocaine appear safer, which is a big concern. Judy asked about inhalants. Jim answered that children as young as sixth graders who want to experiment with drugs, inhalants are usually their first experience.

Getting back to the newsletter, Jim referred to an open house scheduled for February 3rd, and the addiction series dates. Barb Holtz stated that as she was recently talking to a social worker at PPAC, the worker indicated that one thing they don't have in the schools is any kind of training for professionals. They discussed training professionals who work with families and it would be helpful to provide information on the current trends in drug use and the signs of use. Barb said just look at the shocked and surprised reaction of this group when Jim mentioned the age of children starting experimenting with inhalants. Jim indicated he'd be happy to do a presentation, or Chuck Wood would be a good resource. Missy asked if Jim would give a presentation, perhaps with Chuck Wood, during an issue segment for CAFSAC.

Amy Baumann, Safe Babies/Healthy Families, asked about methadone use. Missy talked about babies weaning off methadone. Sarah said her experience is the mothers are not trying to wean off. They are not coping or learning to deal with their cravings, but instead just increasing doses. Mary Alice Grosser suggested Rob McCreadie, Quality Addiction Management, 262-549-6600, to come explain the methadone treatment plan. She has engaged with him previously, and he was very informative regarding methadone treatment. Mary Alice will give Missy his contact information. Mary Anderson asked for the contact info also, as Public health has been trying for a while to get someone to talk about methadone and pregnancy.

Barb Holtz announced that Born Learning has a Facebook page. Born Learning Waukesha. Everyday there's a fun game to do with your children. "Like" her on Facebook.

Kathy Duffek shared schedules for Parents Place.

Diane Ripple, Women's Center, stated their mission is to provide safety, shelter and support for women and children experiencing abuse. The shelter is public at 505 N. East Ave., since 2003. It is a thirty-two bed shelter. They have been operating at or near capacity the last four months. They have seen a lot more children recently than earlier in the year. They're also finding that clients are needing to stay longer. It was previously thirty days, and they're now allowing forty-five days. Clients could probably use longer. Three hundred are served each year on average. She doesn't have exact 2011 numbers yet. The crisis line is staffed 24/7 by the same folks who work in shelter. They take between 6,000 and 6,500 calls a year.

They operate support groups for adults and children affected by domestic violence and/or sexual assault. There is a legally advocate available to assist in thinking through the legal processes and setting a safety plan. They aren't lawyers, but they can provide support. They do referrals to attorneys. Diane will send Julie pdf documents with information about services at the Women's Center to share with the group.

They have staff respond to people in the hospitals, who are specially trained. She mentioned a new support group called Journeys, which helps victims between 18 and 25 years of age who have been sexually assaulted. There was a question asked if there is an increase in seeing younger sexual assault victim, and how young. Diane answered they do see 15-16 year olds. In 2010 they worked with about 130 adults at the Center. They also have a family advocate staffed at the Care Center.

Their Family Support Project is education classes for parents. Parenting and individual counseling, for those whose parenting skills have been negatively effected due to domestic violence. Classes are offered to assist with employment issues. Blooms financial empowerment is taught by an employment counselor. A new session begins on January 23.

Transitional Living is a two-year program. They operate nine units on the third floor of their building and also own some houses.

Kathy Duffek stated she is looking to doing more collaborating with the Women's Center.

SPECIAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Missy reported on the last meeting. There is new leadership. The next meeting is February 16. This group is a subcommittee of CAFSAC and includes parent involvement. She asked for feedback from CAFSAC about what they want to know about SSAC. They will be explaining more about CAFSAC to SSAC at the February 16 meeting. SSAC members are parents with children having long-term needs, on the waiver, with physical or cognitive disabilities.

Jesús added that the Special Services Advisory Committee is providing advice to the Family Support Program, which is a funding source from the state, overseen by Don Daniels. He explained the system to identify families, the amount of funding and the wait list. They serve about 160 families per year. Funding is distributed in \$500 increments up to \$3000. They also provide recommendations about the B-3 program. There is a state requirement to have 51% parent membership on the advisory group. Parental involvement has been a challenge. They are

constantly recruiting for B-3 program parents. Having the SSAC chairperson a member of CAFSAC should be a consideration.

OTHER

Mary Alice Grosser, reported on the upcoming QSR (Quality Service Review) by the State. Yesterday they had an orientation presentation. It is a child welfare review that happens around the state. Waukesha is reviewed every three years, and this is our third review.

Mary Alice and Sue Sevenz have reported to CAFSAC in the past on the results of the QSR. The QSR gives us specific feedback about what we're doing well and what needs improvement. Twelve cases are selected and reviewed in depth, and many providing agencies will be involved. Protocol is used to score. It is like a report card used by the supervisor to make sure we're meeting all needs. She shared a handout of the status indicators, which gives an idea of what they are looking at. Our families are in crisis a lot and we tend to react to their crisis, but we have to be sure to plan for change. Engaging missing fathers was one thing we found we had to look at after the last QSR. Workers learned to ask, "Did I really work to contact that father in jail or work to find the absent father?" Also, look at the needs of the children; does this child need an IEP was another thing. When needs aren't being met families can ask for an educational advocate.

Many will be involved in the macro process. There will be focus groups for separate service providers. Waukesha has a wealth of resources when compared to other counties. The state really recognizes and it's a tribute to all collaborating agencies. Reviewers are particularly impressed with Judy Hickey's IFDS program.

Lisa added that the review starts March 19. Many agencies will get letters inviting them to focus groups. If you don't receive a letter and want to be a part of this, let Lisa know you're interested.

Jesús state that involvement by the families selected is voluntary. He talked about what things will be confidentially discussed with the families. The State chooses the twelve cases. Kathy Duffek said website has results of the last review and is very interesting.

Tim Schindler talked about his experience doing the reviews. He will likely do the follow-up facilitation process. It is driven by county staff.

Jesús added that this year they are focusing on children 15 years of age plus, and how we help those youth transition into adulthood. Also new at this review is looking at our front door (Child Protective Services initial assessment-IA) process.

Lisa shared a flyer for Parent Cafés. This is a good way to network with other families, and dinner is provided. If you need more information contact Shari Rather. They bring in a variety of speakers from community agencies and resources to inform families of available services.

The Trauma Partnership meets every other month, with the next meeting scheduled for February 8th. They are bringing back many presenters of last year and will break down into small discussion groups.

Kathy Duffek reminded all of the February 17 PPAC fundraiser at Miller Park in the N.Y.C.E. Room.

Missy asked members to submit suggestions for issue segments for the 2012 calendar year.

Jesús suggested sending out bylaws and a current membership list to members for their review.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the Human Services Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Barb Holtz motioned to adjourn, seconded by Diane Ripple at 10:05 a.m.

Approved on 2-16-12
date